functioning. Further, the Government has initiated consultations on a policy on Competition issues.

<c) Yes, Sir.

Declaration of dividends below level of earning per share

*200. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the general tendency on the part of companies including those in which Government have substantial interest, to declare dividends much below the level of earning per share, which effects the shareholders' interests;

(b) whether Government propose to make suitable changes in the company law to address this problem; and

(c) if so, by when that is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Under the Companies Act, 1956 there is no requirement of mandatory declaration of dividend at any given level.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Air connectivity to regional stations

1355. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to have regional stations also connected by the air routes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether one or more cities in Bihar will also come under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?